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SOLDIER-STATESMAN PRESIDENTS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The first two years of the five-year Bicentennial of the United States Constitution focused on the drafting, framing and ratification of the Constitution. The Founding Fathers, with their precious foundation emplaced, turned next to the establishment of a national government. Significantly, these same patriots became well-qualified candidates to occupy positions in the new government. Of the twenty-three Soldier-Statesmen who signed the Constitution, eleven became Senators, seven entered the House of Representatives, eight became governors, two became cabinet members, two became foreign ministers and one became President of the United States.

On April 30, 1989, the nation will celebrate the Bicentennial of the Presidency, marking that day 200 years ago when George Washington, the brilliant commander of the victorious Continental Army, stood on the balcony of Federal Hall in New York City and swore to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." During this bicentennial year, the Department of Defense continues its celebration of the Soldier-Statesmen of the Constitution. We are proud that thirty of our forty-one presidents served in the Armed Forces.

Members of the Armed Forces take special pride in the Soldier-Statesman Presidents who, like themselves, are linked by a common bond to support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

THE PRESIDENT'S OATH OF OFFICE

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

First administered to George Washington on April 30, 1789, by the Chancellor of New York Robert R. Livington

THE SOLDIER'S OATH OF OFFICE

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God."

Administered to all members of the Armed Forces.

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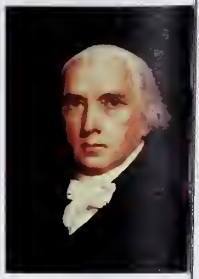
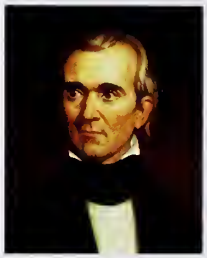
GEORGE WASHINGTON
1st President 1789–1797

THOMAS JEFFERSON
3rd President 1801–1809

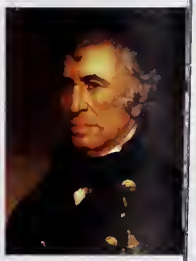


JAMES MADISON
4th President 1809–1817

JOHN TYLER
10th President 1841–1845



JAMES KNOX POLK
11th President 1845–1849



ZACHARY TAYLOR
12th President 1849–185

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
16th President 1861–1865

ANDREW JOHNSON
17th President 1865–1869

ULYSSES S. GRANT
18th President 1869–18

BENJAMIN HARRISON
23rd President 1889–1893

WILLIAM McKINLEY
25th President 1897–1901

THEODORE ROOSEVE
26th President 1901–19

LYNDON B. JOHNSON
36th President 1963–1969

RICHARD M. NIXON
37th President 1969–1974

GERALD FORD
38th President 1974–19

JAMES MONROE
5th President 1817–1825

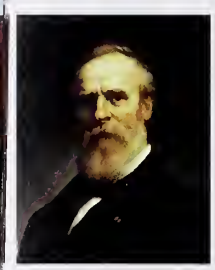
ANDREW JACKSON
7th President 1829–1837

WM. HENRY HARRISON
9th President 1841

MILLARD FILLMORE
13th President 1850–1853

FRANKLIN PIERCE
14th President 1853–1857

JAMES BUCHANAN
15th President 1857–1861

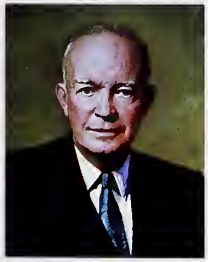


RUTHERFORD B. HAYES
19th President 1877–1881

JAMES A. GARFIELD
20th President 1881

CHESTER A. ARTHUR
21st President 1881–1885

HARRY S TRUMAN
33rd President 1945–1953



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
34th President 1953–1961

JOHN F. KENNEDY
35th President 1961–1963

JAMES EARL CARTER
39th President 1977–1981

RONALD W. REAGAN
40th President 1981–1989

GEORGE BUSH
41st President 1989–

THE PRESIDENT'S OATH OF OFFICE

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First administered to George Washington on April 30, 1789, by the Chancellor of New York Robert R. Livington

THE SOLDIER'S OATH OF OFFICE

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God."

Administered to all members of the Armed Forces.

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Military Service of the Soldier-Statesman Presidents

GEORGE WASHINGTON
Major, Virginia Militia 1752–4; Colonel, Virginia Provincials, 1754–8; General and Commander in Chief, Continental Army, 1775–83; Service in the French and Indian War and the American Revolution

THOMAS JEFFERSON
Colonel, Virginia Militia 1770–79

JAMES MADISON
Colonel, Virginia Militia, 1775–81

JAMES MONROE
Major, Continental Army, 1775–8; Service in the American Revolution

ANDREW JACKSON
Davidson County Militia, 1791; Elected as Major General, Tennessee Militia, 1802; Major General, U.S. Army, 1814–21; Service in Indian Wars and War of 1812

WM. HENRY HARRISON
Lieutenant, U.S. Army, 1791–98; Major General Kentucky Militia, 1812–4; Service in War of 1812

JOHN TYLER
Captain, Virginia Militia, 1812

JAMES K. POLK
Major, Tennessee Militia, 1821

ZACHARY TAYLOR
Major General, U.S. Army, 1808–15 and 1816–49; Service in Black Hawk War and Mexican War

MILLIARD FILLMORE
Major, New York Militia (Union Continentals), 1861

FRANKLIN PIERCE
Brigadier General, New Hampshire Militia, 1846–8; Service in the Mexican War

JAMES BUCHANAN
Private, Pennsylvania Militia, 1814

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
Captain, Illinois Militia, 1832; Service in the Black Hawk War

ANDREW JOHNSON
Military Governor of Tennessee with rank of Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Volunteers), 1862–5; Service in the Civil War

ULYSSES S. GRANT
General, U.S. Army, 1843–54 and 1861–9; Service in the Mexican and Civil Wars

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES
Brigadier General, Brevet Major General, U.S. Army (Volunteers), 1861–5; Service in the Civil War

JAMES A. GARFIELD
Major General, U.S. Army (Volunteers), 1861–3; Service in the Civil War

CHESTER A. ARTHUR
Brigadier General, New York Militia, 1858–63; Service in the Civil War

BENJAMIN HARRISON
Colonel, Brevet Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Volunteers), 1862–5; Service in the Civil War

WILLIAM McKINLEY
Captain, Brevet Major, U.S. Army (Volunteers), 1861–5; Service in the Civil War

THEODORE ROOSEVELT
Captain, New York National Guard, 1882–6; Colonel, U.S. Army (Volunteers); Service in Spanish-American War

HARRY S TRUMAN
Captain, Missouri National Guard 1905–11 and 1917–9; Colonel, Army Officer Reserve Corps, 1919–45; Service in World War I

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
General of the Army, U.S. Army, 1915–48 and 1951–2; Service in World War II

JOHN F. KENNEDY
Lieutenant, U.S. Navy Reserve, 1941–5; Service in World War II

LYNDON B. JOHNSON
Commander, U.S. Navy Reserve, 1940–64; Active Duty, 1941–2; Service in World War II

RICHARD M. NIXON
Commander, U.S. Navy Reserve, 1942–66; Active Duty, 1942–46; Navy Retired Reserve, 1966–present; Service in World War II

GERALD R. FORD, JR.
Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy Reserve, 1942–6; Service in World War II

JAMES E. CARTER, JR.
Lieutenant, U.S. Navy, 1946–53

RONALD W. REAGAN
Captain, Army Air Corps and U.S. Army Reserve, 1942–5; Service in World War II

GEORGE BUSH
Lieutenant, U.S. Navy Reserve, 1942–6; Service in World War II